

THE MADOC MERCURY AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

109.

MADOC. (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1865.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

The South, as has so frequently happened before in the war, when its cause appeared to be getting desperate, has had another respite from inflicting destruction, through the complete failure of a grand expedition against Wilmington. The force marched, with avowedly the fullest confidence of successfully accomplishing the object of its mission, which was to close up the great port of entry for Confederate and British blockade runners, was one of the largest ever collected to operate against a particular point. It consisted of a fleet of upwards of 60 vessels of war, carrying more than 600 guns, under command of Rear-Admiral D. D. Porter, and with many transports, tenders, &c., comprised nearly 150 vessels of all descriptions. Accompanying this great force was a co-operating land force of nearly 10,000 men under the command of Major-General B. F. Butler.

It was rumoured last week that the expedition, after furiously bombarding Fort Fisher, at the entrance of the port, had abandoned its enterprise, and returned to Fortress Monroe; but the North was incredulous at first that a scheme prepared with so much care and at such vast cost, could have failed so dismally, and it was contended that there was "some stake" about the report. All doubt, however, has been removed by the official account sent to the Secretary of the Navy, by Admiral Porter, who comes by stating, under date of Dec. 26, that he was positive that he should have been able to present to Fort Fisher and the surrounding works, as much gift, but he was sorry to say that it was taken. He next details the delay caused by weather, and the particulars of his attack on Fort Fisher, previous to the arrival of the troops, by first part of the programme—the attempt to blow up the powder magazines of the fort by blowing a ship loaded with 215 tons of powder as they could get to it—ended in disappointment, the explosion of the immense torpedo producing no effect. The fort was then shelled at the rate of 15 in a minute, at the commencement, completely ceasing the fire of the fort, by driving its garrison into the shelter of the bombproofs. This terrific fire was kept up at a more moderate rate for five hours, magazines being blown up, but no other very material damage being done. The next day, the steamer Australasian, from Liverpool, 17th, via Queenstown, 18th, arrived at New York on the 29th ult.

A deputation from the Emancipation Society presented to Mr. Adams an address to Mr. Lincoln, congratulating him on his re-election as an evidence that the entire abolition of slavery is determined upon. Mr. Adams expressed his gratification at receiving the address, regarding it as a strong proof of friendliness to the United States. He said this and numerous other similar demonstrations would be received as strong proof that whatever may be the hostility of some to America, it is by no means shared by the greater number of the British people, and ought not to be presumed to be the national impression.

The Times' city article, alluding to the alleged re-opening of trading operations between the North and South, says:—"If trade is opened between the two sections, questions would of course arise as to the validity of the blockading regulations instituted for the purpose of keeping foreign nations from the enjoyment of similar intercourse."

C. Fortescue, Under Secretary of the Colonies, in speaking on American affairs. He was for neutrality, sympathised with the North so strongly, struggling for a boundary to prevent slavery, but could not withhold his sympathy for the gallant struggles

fulfilment of the prophecy that by the 1st of May the Federals will possess the entire coast will probably be now somewhat indefinitely postponed.

The Richmond Whig considers the only point gained in the capture of Savannah is its moral effect, and that not much in a military point of view. It says:—"It was of no value to us whatever." The Whig expects Sherman to move on Richmond, and says: "he is the very genius we desire to see, and he brings with him some thousands of those Western veterans whose metal we desire to test, for Grant has with him only some seven thousand veterans. The rest are only the riff-raff of creation, to defeat whom is no honour."

There was severe cannonading in front of Petersburg last week, without result on either side. There are rumours in Richmond that Federal troops are crossing again to the north bank of the James river, and also that some troops had been landed at the White House: and on the other hand, the Federals report unusual commotion in the Confederate army, indicating early offensive operations in some direction, the nature of which is unknown. A deserter reports that the men are told Lee is contemplating movements within thirty days which will astonish the world.

"A lady on her way north from Richmond represents affairs in Richmond as more gloomy than ever. Declarations that the Confederate cause is hopeless are openly made among the people."

Some of the Richmond papers continue to charge the responsibility of the present situation of affairs upon President Davis and his flatterers; and the dissensions thereby caused are endangering the safety of the Confederacy. The extent of the prevalent ill-feeling may be judged from the following language employed by the Richmond Examiner, in approval of the proposition to make Lee generalissimo: "This is on the supposition that Mr. Davis is capable of an act so sane and wise, which may be greatly doubted."

The New York Evening Post says there is not the least foundation for the current reports that Lee is evacuating Richmond.

There was a rumour at Nashville on the 20th ult. that Thomas had attacked, routed and captured most of Hood's fragmentary army, but it needs confirmation.

Arrival of the Australasian.

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SPAIN.

A ministerial crisis had resulted in the Marquis Pavia having formed a new cabinet, which the Queen refused to accept.

Istibitz was endeavouring to form a ministry and his success was doubtful.

A terrible hurricane in Lisbon had been disastrous to small vessels.

The Spanish ministerial crisis continues.

It is said the St. Domingo question was the cause of the resignation of the Spanish ministry. They wished to abandon the island because of the difficulty of its position, and because England has resolved to recognize the insurgents as belligerents. The Queen intended to adopt this course and the resignation ensued.

INDIA.—The Calcutta mails of the 23rd November reached Suez on the 16th December.

The steamer Jeddah, with the Bombay mails, was passed on the Red Sea with two boilers disabled. Her mails were transferred to the Calcutta steamer.

A Shanghai telegram dated Nov. 9, says: China news is unsatisfactory. The presence of the rebels in the vicinity of Amoy stopped trade.

The Anglo-Francese Chinese advices, from Japan, are favourable.

MILITIA RIOT NEAR QUEBEC.

Mr. Dick, the registrar of the county of Montmorency, when about to proceed with balloting for men for the active militia force in the parish of Chateau Richer, some miles below Quebec, was prevented by a crowd, which with many noisy demonstrations declared that they would never allow him to ballot in that parish. The registrar and his assistant being alarmed at the threatening aspect of the crowd, many of whom had firearms in their possessions, fled with the rolls. The noise of the tumult, on reaching town, caused a good deal of excitement and indignation. The Canadian and the Journal, the principal French papers of Quebec, were very indignant, and declared the Rouge party to be blamable for inciting the people to riot.

Three companies of volunteers and two guns of a field battery, under command of Lieut.-Col. De Salaberry, Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, were despatched to Chateau Richer, but the chief delinquents had fled to the woods on hearing the news of the approach of this force. The officials, then, under the protection of the military, proceeded with the militia ballot and completed it peacefully. Several persons were arrested for being concerned in the riot, and after examination, two men were taken as prisoners to Quebec, and the others released.—The Leader says:

"It is easy to believe that the rioters do not represent the feeling of any considerable portion of the French population, but such conduct as that of which they were guilty is liable to be misinterpreted abroad to the disadvantage of the country." His rebuke no less

Lately the New York Herald published a letter from its correspondent at Belize, stating that the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico had determined to annex British Honduras to his empire. The announcement was widely copied by the Canadian press. It turns out that the whole affair is one of those gross fabrications at which the Herald is such an adept.

Lord Maitland, in his History of England, gives an account of an attempt to fire London during the first American War of Independence. It was generally, but erroneously, thought that the attempt was a plot on the part of the revolted colonists. When Benjamin Franklin heard of it, he declared such a proceeding would be perfectly justifiable, and that if the English government invaded and ruined American towns, the Americans were right in trying to destroy English towns.

The New York Times, commenting upon the release of Mr. Bettsworth, and the simultaneous publication of President Davis's proclamation acknowledging that Burley acted as an agent of the Confederate Government in the "Lake Erie Raid," says: "He knows that, if the actual treaty and statutory obligations which are supposed to govern the authorities on both sides, can be twisted so as to give an opportunity at Toronto and the robbery of the Bank of Canada free, it will be done."

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SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF MR. E. H. MURNEY BY POISON.—On Wednesday, of last week, Mr. E. H. Murney, the only son of the late member for the Trent Division, accompanied by Mr. Rankin, son of Col. Rankin, and another friend named Scott, went into the store of Messrs. Stanton & Co., Quebec, and by invitation joined his friends in taking a medical tonic known as "a pick me up." While it was being prepared, the young men began "chaffing" the druggist's assistant, and so confused him that he mistook the bottle containing digitalis for that containing tincture of gentian. Mr. Murney, after attending to some business, was attacked with weakness and spasms in the stomach, and fell in the street. He was removed to Russell's hotel, and medical aid obtained; but after suffering intensely for two hours, he expired in convulsions. It was reported that Mr. Rankin had also died from the effects of the poison but by great attention his life was saved; and he and Mr. Scott are now nearly recovered.—The untimely fate of Mr. Murney has called forth a general expression of regret for his loss and of sympathy with his suddenly bereaved relatives.

THE MADOC MERCURY
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7.

The Municipal Election.

The annual election of Five Councillors to represent the Municipality of Madoc was held in the Town-Hall on Monday and Tuesday last. The proceedings commenced at ten o'clock on Monday morning, at which hour the Returning Officer, J. R. Ketcheson, Esq., announced his readiness to receive nominations. The friends of the respective candidates as usual struggled to name their own favourite first, thereby causing unnecessary confusion and delay. Finally, the names of the candidates were written on slips of paper, and the order in which they were to speak was determined by lot as follows:-

1. STEPHEN REED—nominated by E. D. O'Flynn, seconded by D. C. Brown. 2. W. H. TUMELTY—W. Bradshaw, S. Embury. 3. A. F. WOOD—Joseph Fitzgerald, G. W. Rose. 4. WILLIAM BLAIR—John Long, W. J. Allen. 5. JOHN TASSEE—James Moore, James Blair. 6. WILLIAM WARD—J. R. Moore, H. Blair. 7. JAMES O'HARA—L. Moon, J. Dale.

Mr. REED, on being called on to speak first, said he thought it would be out of place for him to commence. Mr. Wood was present, and could give them some explanation of the state of the finances of the township, and he would rather give way to him.

Mr. WOOD then came forward, and said it would perhaps be more fitting that he should make the first address, as he was more acquainted with the state of the finances of the township than the other members of the Council. He proceeded to give a full statement of the receipts and expenditures, commenting on the details as occasion required. From this it ap-

peared that the total receipts in the past year were \$7,118.58, and the expenditures \$7,092.95—leaving a balance of \$25.63.—Mr. W. next said there was another matter he wished to speak about, as their attention would naturally be called to it by the item for a special audit. The matter had caused him a good deal of pain, as it was not pleasant to have his name coupled with charges of fraud and dishonesty. He might be proud and high-spirited, but he could not get over the pain that his name had been so baulked about and coupled with the "Seed Grain account." He was glad if this feeling had passed away, and did not wish it to be reactivated. He did not mean to place himself in the box to be tried, but he would state the circumstances; and farther he did not wish to enter into the matter.—He then produced the special audit of Messrs. Green and Dunn, stating that fortunately for himself he had saved all the papers relating to the seed grain accounts, which were sufficient to satisfy the auditors that \$24 had been expended over the amount received, and that in consequence of their report, the Council had passed a resolution fully exonerating him from all blame. So far he felt he had done all that was necessary to clear himself, and with reference to the reports that had been in circulation and what had been said about himself; he now only wished to forget them.—With respect to his again seeking an election at their hands, he had served them for eight years, and his fitness for office must be judged by his actions during that period.—He then declared himself opposed to the sale of liquor, as injurious to the best interests of the township, but said he had no desire to interfere with the rights of others or the liberty of the subject, and that he did not blame those who sold the liquor, but the township, for allowing the system of licensing the sale to continue. He did not think that those in favour of it would be able to obtain the prohibitory liquor law at present; but the matter would be discussed during the next year, and when the time for it came, he should vote for the suppression of the liquor traffic. (Hear, hear.) He had been in the habit, after election, of treating the electors, pretty liberally; but had determined not to do so again, as he thought the principle was wrong.—Again alluding to the financial position of the township, he said it would show he had endeavoured to fulfil his duties honestly and carefully—for it was second to none, in fact it was the first in the county. As one of the sixteen Councillors the township had had, he could say for himself he had done his best to bring this about; and for the other Councillors, he could say he never saw a man out of them but he could safely trust to do his business in the Council honestly.—Mr. Wood concluded by thanking the electors for the many years of confidence they had reposed in him, and assured them, that if again elected, he would serve them faithfully, honestly, and straightforwardly; and he asked them for their support if they thought him worthy of it.

Mr. REED said he appeared before the electors again as a candidate for the honour of being a municipal Councillor. In his first year of office he had tried to save expenses as much as possible—looking more strictly after the public income than he would have done if his own interests merely had been concerned. He considered it would be an honour if the electors should put such trust in him as to elect him again; and if they did so, he would do all in his power to deserve their support.

Mr. TUMELTY said that if elected, in looking after their interests he should endeavour to serve the electors faithfully as before. Considering the hard times, he was going to find from the statement made by the Reeve that the finances of the township were in so good a condition. If they thought that from his past conduct he was deserving of support, he should be happy to receive it.

Mr. TASSEE, after expressing his satisfaction with the plain statement that had been made as to the finances of the township, said he had been asked to come forward as a candidate, and having done so, he should be happy to find the electors thought he was deserving of support.

Mr. WARD said he had consented to come forward as a candidate for Councillor at the request of his friends, and if elected, he would endeavour to serve the electors to their satisfaction and his own credit. He wished it to be distinctly understood that he did not intend to "treat" at the close of the poll. He objected to doing so on principle; and that it might not be supposed it was from meanness, he would let what might have been so spent in the hands of treasurer, to devote to some benevolent purpose. (Applause.)

Mr. O'HARA said he felt much gratified many of his old acquaintances had that day come to him as to solicit him to come forward. He had served as a Councillor for many years, and those who were in office with him

would be ready to levy taxes to meet every emergency, as the consequence of that policy had been that the township was in a good financial position, while other towns were in arrear. This proved that they had good Councils, and he could endorse the sentiment of every Councillor he had sat with had acted for the good of the township and not for his own interest. He thought they had plenty of good material for Councillors; and as they could not vote for all, it was their privilege, right and duty to vote for whom they pleased. He would say that if they had confidence in him, he would serve them as well as any other man. He had many old friends there, and he thought they would give him a good shove ahead. He left his case to their hands, and whatever suited them would suit him, whether he was or was not elected.

The Returning Officer then declared the polls open and the voting commenced.

At four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon the poll closed, with the following result:-

WOOD	149
REED	277
BLAIR	275
WARD	275
TASSEE	247
TUMELTY	111
O'HARA	111

The Returning Officer then declared A. F. Wood, S. Reed, W. Blair, W. Ward, and J. Tassee, duly elected.

The successful candidates were then called on to make short speeches, and briefly returned thanks. Mr. Tumelty, being also called on to speak, as one of the defeated, said he was not quite so elated as he was on the election; but he thanked those who had supported him; and he thought the gentlemen elected would serve the municipality well.

Three hearty cheers were then given for "the Queen," "the Returning Officer," and "the Successful Candidates," and the electors quickly dispersed.

THE BALLOT FOR THE MILITIA.

The Draft in the Township of Madoc.

The balloting for first-class service militia men has proceeded quietly throughout the Province, with the exception of a trifling disturbance near Quebec. A little ripple of excitement and curiosity was created in Madoc on Friday evening last, when the Wards returned from Belleville with the list of the drafted from this township; but although a few of the women-kind were a little scared lest their sweethearts should speedily be converted into "food for powder," the "drafted" take their fate very unconcernedly. Some of those whose names appear on the list are either dead, married, or moved; and we suppose their place must be supplied by a fresh draft. In Elzevir, single young men are scarce, so scarce, that some of the married men had to be drawn to make up the quota of that township.

Ackermann, Geo
Allen, Robert
Allen, William
Allen, Thomas
Arnstrong, John
Arthur, William
Bacon, Benjamin
Benn, George
Best, William
Bonck, George
Bradshaw, J. D.
Bradshaw, Simon
Bristol, Almond
Bristol, Wellington
Brown, Victor A.
Burrowes, Robert

Camp, C.
Car, C.
Eagleson, John
Elliott, Thomas
Ellis, George
Embry, Samuel W.

Farrell, Richard
Fitzgerald, Jas.
Fitzsimons

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THE RAIDERS.—Judge Smith on Tuesday overruled the objection of the counsel for the defense and held that the Federal government could claim the rendition of the prisoners. Counsel for the defense then presented a petition signed by the prisoners asking the court to grant a postponement of their trial in order to procure evidence from Richmonde. Objection was made by counsel for the Crown, a U.S. Government. Argument on the point was concluded on Wednesday, when Judge Smith once granted the petition, whereupon the prisoners were remanded till the 10th of February.

AMERICAN WAR NEWS.—General Butler has been removed from his command of the army of the James river, and ordered to report in Lowell, Massachusetts.—Speaking of the visit of the Blair to Richmond on a peace mission, the New York World editorially remarks—"From the statements of our Washington correspondents, and the tone of the extracts from the Richmond press, it would seem as if it were barely possible that the war was substantially over. Evidently these peace negotiations have been going on longer, and have progressed further, than has been generally suspected. Until the result of the Blair mission is known there will be but little interest in the movements of our armies."



THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14.

THE "FENIAN" MANIA.

The excitement which lately prevailed in the Western parts of the Province, in consequence of the supposed intended bloody designs of the Fenians, has begun to die away. The local papers which were the first to give currency to the rumours about the secret drillings of large bodies of men, and the burial of coffins full of pikes, are now announcing on good authority, that there is no real foundation for these alarming reports. We hope that this fact may tend to allay the undoubted alarm which has been felt by many in this neighborhood that the Irish Roman Catholic portion of the population are contemplating the midnight assassination of their Protestant neighbours. It is of course no news to our readers that in anticipation of such a contingency, the people of the villages of Briggewater and Queensborough, in the Township of Elizaville, have during the past week organized a Vigilance Committee and Home Guards for the protection of their families, being doubtless incited to take this step by the advice of Mr. Mills Flint, whose mental equilibrium appears

to have been completely capsized by all the idle gossip flying round on the subject. The course he has advised is considered by many as very unwise, and calculated to produce ill-will on the part of those who may feel themselves to be suspected on account of their religion. This may lead to counter-combinations on their side, with all the danger of future collisions. We have not forgotten the finding of the pikes in Toronto, and the outrage on the Orange Hall there; but it should be remembered that the Catholics generally have expressed their disapprobation of that affair, and avow that they have no sympathy with Fenianism. This we believe, for the simple reason that the Irish in Canada have settled here of their own free will, instead of going to the United States, which is the favourite resort of those who are disaffected towards the British Government; and whatever may be their opinions of the grievances of which the Catholics in Ireland may complain, here they are in all respects upon a footing of perfect equality with their neighbours. As a body they have much property at stake as any other portion of the community, and therefore can have no desire to encourage the voluntary departure of obtaining the independence of Ireland by laying Canada waste in the first place—a proceeding which, supposing it to be successfully accomplished, would scarcely facilitate the recognition of their independence by the civilized nations of the world.

As for the rumours of impending danger from another "St. Bartholomew" massacre which disturb the rest of the timid, we think that just as much importance may be attached to them as to the tales that pikes have been lately deposited in new-made graves in the Catholic burial ground in this village.

School Section No. 1.

The annual meeting of the above School section was held in the village School-house on Wednesday morning. J. H. Dunn, Esq., was called to the chair and Jas. Fitzgerald, Esq., was appointed Secretary.

The Trustees not being able to pres at the usual statements, in consequence of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Trustees, Mr. S. Reed, and the Schoolmaster, Mr. G. P. Frise, not having prepared their reports in due season, the only business transacted was the election of a Trustee in the place of Mr. Reed whose term had expired; and the adoption of a resolution, moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Franklin, that the money for the necessary expenses of the School should be raised by a rate as before.

Dr. Elmer and Miss S. D. P. Lewis and G. D. Raw, having been nominated for Trustee, the show of hands resulted in the election of Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Wood also stated that at the beginning of the year the Trustees had employed Mr. Frise at a salary of \$150 a year for the whole School, and that this arrangement was continued till from some reason the school began to go down, when the Trustees thought it would be better to employ a female teacher, and have a separate school for the girls. Mr. Frise was paid \$150 a year, and Miss Bons was on \$130 a month; and the attendance since has shown that additional interest is taken in the female department of the school.

The other information which should have been presented at the meeting is contained in the following letter:

Mr. Elmer.—I regret that certain circumstances over which I had no control, connected with a general sickness, should have prevented me from presenting the report for School Section No. 1, Madoc, being ready for the

annual meeting—and would thank you to give publicity to the following facts in connection with said school:—

Total number in attendance during the year, 141. Of these, 31 have attended under 20 days, 25 under 50, 50 under 100 days, 35 under 150 days.

Aggregate attendance for last half year 6,94

General average 59-8

Average for Female School since Nov. 23 4

Average for Male School for same time 4

The interest in the school has increased since we established the Female department, and we hope to see a still larger attendance during the winter. We will earnestly urge upon the school proprietors the importance of giving the school a hearty support thereby materially assisting the Trustees in the discharge of their duties.

Finances are as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year	\$32 0
County assessment	110 50
Government Grant	70 74
Received from Tax levied	440 80
Foreign Scholars	1 63

EXPENDITURES.

Paid to Teachers	8613 26
Paid for Repairs	6 17
Maps and Apparatus	3 50
Insurance	12 50
Other expenses	2 89
Balance on hand	23 41

\$661 82

Yours truly,

A. F. WOOD,

TRUSTEE S. S. NO. 1, MADOC.

List of Teachers

Who obtained Certificates from the North H Board of Public Instruction, January 5, 1866

FIRST CLASS.

David Lowrey 190 George Bradley

H. H. Pollock 186

SECOND CLASS.

Matthew Sanderson 181 George W. Syne

James W. Rogers 173 Samuel Gardiner

John Courtney 151 Louisa Ketcheson

THIRD CLASS.

James M. Gardiner 134 Anthony J. Goggins

Alma McGrath 133 Stephen E. Hogan

Luetta Morlen 132 George P. Frise

John Maxwell 128 Agnes Stewart

Eratus J. Badgely 128 Edward Embury

Thomas Elgood 126 Annie J. Rutledge

Eliza Wright 116 Jane Porter

Johanna Daly 111 Permelia McGunnion

James Moore 110 Clarissa Geary

Wm P. McGuire 108

THE GOOD TEMPLARS' TEA-MEETING.—on Friday evening last, was one of the most successful ever held in the village, and proved that the Temperance cause here is in a flourishing condition, and making great progress. The audience appeared to enjoy both refreshments and the speeches, and were compensated for the absence of Mr. Flint and Mr. Henderson, who were to have delivered addresses, by the unexpected presence of T. C. Wallbridge, Esq., and the absence of the Stirling Brass Band. Speeches were made by the Chairman, J. Fitzgerald, Esq.; Mr. Wood, Esq., Warden; Rev. Messrs. Sloan and Hart, and Messrs. G. P. Frise, E. D. O'Flynn, and J. Rossie, Jr. The concluding address was made by Rev. Mr. Smith, Miss O'Flynn, Mr. Weiss, and the Madoc Amateurs contributed acceptably, by singing between the speeches, to the general enjoyment of the evening.

SELLING LIQUOR WITHOUT A LICENSE.—Joseph Hart, of Hazzard's Corners, was brought before A. Wood, W. H. Tunney, and J. Speirs, Esq., on Friday the 6th inst., charged, on the complaint of John Dale, License Inspector, with the breach of a

AN APOLOGUE.

"Twas eight o'clock, and near the fire
My ready little boy was seated,
And with the titles of a sire.
My ears expected to be respected;
But vain the thought—sheen uppreasd,
No father there; the child desir'd,
His head reclined upon his breast,
Or, nodding, rolled from side to side.

"Let this young rogue be sent to bed!"
Here I scarce had time to collect,
When—down he came, and raised his head
To see that he might longer stay.
Reprov'd, awar his steps he bent,
With tearful eye and aching heart,
But claim'd his play hinge ere he went,
And took up stairs his horse and cart.

Still for delay, though oft denied,
He made wildy exertion, the boon,
Through pa's usual hour, he cried
At being sent to bed so soon.
Up stern & grim, his grief I shared;
Unmoved who sees his offspring weep?
Or soothing him I half-despair'd
When all his cares were lost in sleep.

"Alas! poor infant!" I exclaim'd,
This father blithely waken'd,
To all that he so lately bane'd;
The follies and the fears of man;
The vain regret, the anguish brief,
Whi' ch thou hast known when sent to bed,
Portrayed of man the like grief!
Whom doomed to slumber with the dead.

THE DRY WELL.
(Concluded.)

I lay for a long time, far hours, benumbed and stupefied by the constant succession of these sad thoughts; and then milder feelings rose in my heart. While there was life, as the old proverb went, hope had no right to die. Many a man had been at as bad a pass, and had struggled out, and lived to end his days in honoured old age, with loving hands to smooth his pillow. I would not perish without an effort. Perhaps like Aristomenes in his cavern, I might find some means of egress, however painful the task; so I began to grope on hands and knees about the vault, seeking for the lantern. The glass, I knew, was in shivers; but the candle, a long one, as I remembered, might be intact. I had the means of re-lighting it, for had I not in my pocket the revolver which James Marshall had lent me?

I had lost my bearings, I suppose, for I groped about for some time without any result but that of getting my fingers pricked by thorns and bruised by pebbles. Then I touched the slimy back of some reptile, toad, snake, or lizard, I do not know which, and I recollect from it as it shrank from my grasp; and presently my fingers closed on something like a human hand, cold, bony, fleshless, the hand of a skeleton, and I uttered a cry of sheer terror, and tore my hand away, springing to my feet, and half fancying that the bony hand was trying to detain mine in its unnatural grip. Then I hastily pulled out the revolver, and withdrawing the bullets, put some felt from my crushed hat close to the chambers, an old letter on the felt, and some dry thorny branches above all. Then I snapped off the pistol, carefully blowing up the ignited tinder into a blaze, and relit the candle, which was not much injured, and which had rolled a yard or more from where the stone fell.

What I then saw was an ugly sight, not calculated to calm the nerves of one in my position. The dead bushes and brushwood, disarranged by me as I groped about the vault, gave to view the white upper part of a ghastly human skeleton, the hand alone being wanting, while the bony ri' bi arm and hand were stiffly extended towards me—loudbly the hand that I had unwittingly grasped. The other features of the vault—the reptiles, bramble's but repulsive companions, shuffling away to crouch and fissure, the heaps of ruin; the stone that I had so narrowly escaped; the leather valise that had slipped from the rope—were seen at a glance. Further search showed, alas! no means of emerging from the living tomb to which I had been so remorselessly consigned. Some other objects I found, but they were of no importance, a broken axe, a hog, some scraps of Aztec pottery, and several spear-heads of copper and the sharp brittle itzli, no doubt the work of Aztec hands. There was no water, save in one hole, where a little green and stagnant pool, left behind by last year's rainy season, lay. And to scale the smooth wall of the well would have been hopeless, to the most practised climber.

My only prospect of a release lay in the feeble chance of a rescue. Some one from above, attracted by my signals of distress, might —. But how could I notify my forlorn condition? I was cut off from my species. My voice was hoarse already, and the muscles of my throat strained and stiff, with use

less attempts to make myself heard. And how few might come, from year's end to year's end, to that desolate spot! No, I must die, save for a miracle—die in darkness, in famine, in all the torments of thirst! Perhaps my reason would give way. How cou d I tell? I had read of shipwrecked sailors who died mad, tearing their own flesh, wild with parching thirst. And in a little while my rambles would be burned down, and I should be left in everlasting darkness, alone, lost to the world, to lie down and die beside the bleaching skeleton of the wretch whose bones were so near me.

Suddenly I bethought me of the valise. It might contain food—an unlikely chance, but a possible one. A little dried fruit, a box of French sweet-meats or Spanish chocolate, might prolong my life for days and weeks, and give more time for my friends to search the country. I forced the lock with my pocket-knife, and hastily rummaged over the contents. No food, not so much as a morsel of anything to sustain life, nothing but money-trash, in that place—a few clothes—some letters, and a quantity of papers, ledgers, scrip, and so forth. Hm! what is this? It was an old envelope, frayed and torn, addressed to M. Etienne L. Place. For a moment, I forgot my own danger. I tore open one of the bonds. It contained Mr. Stacey's name, often repeated. Another was stucked in the banker's own hand. Yes, they were all there, the missing papers, whose loss had caused Mr. Stacey's ruin and arrest. No doubt the valise was that of Laplace, the fugitive clerk; and I where was he? The skeleton—the headless skeleton! I glanced half fearfully at it, as if I expected to see the dead man rise to claim the property before me. Yes, yes, it was likely enough that the runaway had been murdered by his vile associates. There is sedon honour among thieves. The skeleton was probably his. I held the papers in my hands. I could clear Mr. Stacey's character, and Rose, the very idea of her happiness, she who loved me already, how would she receive her father's preserver!

But of what use was it to say all this? I was in a trap, and should never, perhaps, be seen by human eye again. The secret would perish with me. Mr. Stacey would be crushed by persecution; and Rose, poor and orphaned, would deem that even I had heartlessly deserted her in her need. In a little while, the candle would be spent.

I carefully replaced the papers in the trunk, blew out the candle, and sat down with my back to the wall, to wait. I had a hard struggle before I could give up the light—there was company and comfort in the light—but I must husband my resources poor as they were, and I determined to keep the candle for a future occasion. I could think in the dark. I thought, and thought, until my brain was overtired, and then I slept, and woke up, cramped and chilled, and walked to and fro, fierce and restless as a wild beast enraged and famished, with dire pains of hunger beginning to rack me. Then I sat down again, and tried to sleep, but could not. Presently I felt the gnawing of hunger more keenly than before, and I relit the candle, and made a desperate attempt by sticking the blade of my clasp-knife, and tht of one of the Mexican spear-heads, into the interstices of the brickwork, to climb the sides of the well. I got up, with much toil, some ten feet, and then the smooth strong masonry baffled me; my knife snapped, and I fell, and was bruised and half-stunned, very weak and discouraged. I lay still, waiting for death. A very long time passed, and then there was a faint sound, and then the sound increased, and as I lifted my dim eyes, I saw a smoky glare of torchlight, and heard the well known croak of the windlass. The rope was coming down with a living load. My heart gave a leap, and then hope died away. I had remembered the robbers. No doubt they had returned; they came in quest of the buried treasure; they would miss it, but find me, and put me to a cruel death in this miasme and rage. Well—better so than starve. The windlass worked on, and the gleam of the torch came nearer, and nearer yet; and then a voice said, in English, and in well-remembered accents: "Hurrah! I saw him move! O thank God, the poor fellow is alive—alive, after all!"

Then I fainted, came to myself, and saw James Marshall and another friend standing over me; fainted again, and was in bed in my own room in Monterey when I regained my consciousness. The rest of the story may be told in few words. The false steward, old Gil Lopez, who resided in the abandoned house of a ruined proprietor, supposed to be dead in exile, turned out to have been a sort of chief of the most villainous gang of highwaymen in the district, acting also as its receiver and spy, having two sons with the band. It was to him that the runaway clerk, Laplace, had fled for concealment and a safe-conduct to the coast. But the Mexicans are treachery incarnate. The bandits had murdered Laplace, sev-

ered his head from his body, burying it in a sepulchre, and tossed his remains into the well, retarding the papers for future profit. The dry well served as the hiding-place for their valuable booty; but a long foray on the part of the band, one number had been captured, and had betrayed the secret. The old man's sons, unable to come to the ciencia, had sent an Indian boy to their father to let him withdraw the treasure before the arrival of police.

To this boy I owed my safety. He had been posed to be asleep, wearied out by long marches, but his curiosity had been excited by old Gil's going in my company, and he had followed, and from the thickest all that had occurred. The sounder, after cutting away the rope of the well, to make the well appear neglected, had procured a mule and a cart from some neighbour, and had off with the treasure, accompanied by his wife, to a place of rendezvous appointed by his accomplice. But the Indian boy—who had led a dog's life in service of the robbers—resolved to desert them, to earn reward and pardon by telling all. He slipped away, therefore, on the road, and after a long march reached Monterey, and being directed to Mr. Marshall's house, found the whole community in a ferment respecting my disappearance. My horse, the sulky, turned and bridle broken, had been found miles off, and all suspected foul play. The Indian, however, put them on the true scent, and lost no time in effecting my rescue. I have on this account, that Mr. Stacey was fully relieved from all embarrassments by the recovery of the papers; that Rose has for some years been my wife; and that we have lived, happy and prosperous, in Monterey, where I am now a junior partner in the house of Marshall Brothers. Gil Lopez and his miserable crew were never, to my knowledge, heard of again; the gang, having made the state too hot for them, migrated northwards, where it is to be hoped they may one day pay the penalty of their crime.

VARIETIES.

Love and law are things we had better keep if we can. They both lead to strong attachment. Why is a sermon delivered on board a ship-necklace?—Because it's a deck-oration.

A London lady advertises for a husband with the habit of washing himself.

An inveterate old bachelor says ships care for "she" because they always keep a man on the out.

Blair Athol, the greatest English racer, was sold recently to Mr. Jackson, of Fairfield, Eng., for a thousand five hundred guineas, by far the largest given in modern times for a race-horse.

Some one was praising our public schools. Charles Lindsee, and said, "All our best men are public-school men. Look at our poets. The Byron, he was a Harrow boy."—"Yes," interposed Lindsee, "there's Burras, he was a ploughboy."

A browbeating counsel asked a witness how he had been from a certain place. "Just four paces, two feet, and six inches," was the reply. "How you to be so exact, my friend?"—"Because I'm some fool or other would ask me, and so I measured."

In the time of Sir John Macpherson's government of one of our colonies, most of his staff consisted of Scotch gentlemen, whose names began with C. One of the aides-de-camp used to call the Governor House Almanac's; "for," said he, "if you stand in the middle of the court and call Mac, you will hear hell popped out of every window."

A CANDID LAWYER.—"Do you think I'll get done me?" said a culprit to his counsel, "I don't think you will," replied the other, "for I two men on the jury who are opposed to hanging you."

A SUNKEN GUESS.—At a parish school examination near Swansea last Jy, when the question was "Why did the children of Israel make a golden calf?" a sharp little fellow replied, "Because they gold enough to make a bull."

DRINKING CUSTOMS.—An American minister had been reproving one of his elders for overdrinking. The elder said, "is an example for you; the cow quenched its thirst, and has retired."—"Yes," said the elder, "that is very true. But suppose an ox had come down to the other side of the river, and had said, 'Here's to you, there's no saying ong they might have gone on.'

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Two Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR ONE DOLLAR—

Six lines, first insertion	0 50
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Each subsequent insertion	0 10
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All Communications for the MERCURY to be addressed, (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

AMERICAN WAR NEWS.—The second combined naval and military attack upon Fort Fisher resulted in the fall of that place at ten o'clock on Sunday night, after a terrific bombardment of nearly sixty hours. The attack was commenced by the navy on the 13th, and by sunset on the 14th, Rear-Admiral Porter reports, the fort was reduced to a pulp, and every gun in it was silenced, either by being injured or covered up with earth so that they could not work. The attempt to carry the fort by storm was commenced at three o'clock on Sunday afternoon by 3,000 soldiers and 2,000 sailors and marines. The Confederate garrison, who were cut off from receiving reinforcements, resisted stubbornly, but after a fierce hand to hand encounter, lasting for nearly seven hours, they were overpowered by numbers, driven out of the fort, and compelled to surrender unconditionally. The Federals captured 144 cannon, 2,000 living prisoners and 700 dead, their own loss being estimated at 900. Porter complimented Terry as the beau ideal of a soldier and a general. Butler is extinguished.

On the morning after the capture of the fort, the magazine exploded, killing and wounding 200 or 300 persons. It is doubtful whether the Confederates can hold Wilmington much longer.

Mr. Blair has returned from Richmond. He seems to have gone on private business, and all ideas of peace resulting from his visit is now exploded.



THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14.

AMERICAN ILL-WILL.

We believe that there is only too much reason to apprehend that sooner or later war between the United States and Great Britain is inevitable, and that the former are resolved to make this Province the battle-ground, unless, by thorough and ample preparation on our part for such a contingency, we deprive them of the convenient opportunity for which alone they are waiting. We know that there are many who argue that both countries have too many common interests at stake for either to take the first decisive step towards war, and that nothing but national madness on the part of one or both could ever lead to the inauguration of a struggle such as the world has never yet witnessed. The upholders of this theory, however, must admit that there were just as powerful arguments against the commencement of the American civil war itself, and that they entirely failed to prevent it. And the longer that war continues, and whatever its result, the greater, in our opinion, becomes the danger of Great Britain and its North American dependencies being involved

in the same calamity. For if the Confederate States, in spite of the tremendous efforts of the United States, continue to hold out with unbroken spirit, the North will seek an excuse for abandoning the contest in a foreign war; and the adversary they will choose, as popular opinion and threats from the commencement of the civil war have shown, will be Great Britain, which power alone is held responsible for the recognition of the belligerent rights of the South, although her example in that respect has been followed by all other nations. Ancient grudges and the hope of finding a compensation for the loss of the Southern States in the British North American possessions will induce the adoption of this course. If, on the other hand, the South succumbs, the "rebels" will attribute their defeat to British neutrality, and will readily resume their old and even now scarcely concealed hostility to the mother country; and North and South, confident that their united strength will terrify Great Britain into submission to any demand they may please to make, will bully her beyond endurance. Either way, unless we are fully prepared to "carry the war into Africa," the prospect is not encouraging.

Of the unfriendly feeling of the American Government and people toward us, in advance of their readiness to declare open war, the last few months, weeks and even days, have furnished sufficient proofs. Beginning with giving notice of their intention to put gun-boats on the Lakes, which, as we have before pointed out, they have so timed as to gain an advantage of some two months before the opening of navigation on the St. Lawrence, will enable Great Britain to place herself on an equality in that respect,—we next had Gen. Dix's invasion order, which, although officially revoked, is nevertheless approvingly spoken of by men like Gen. Wool, (who has had occasion to feel sore about his own Canadian experience) and the Anti-British part of the population. Then came Seward's passport system, specially designed for the annoyance and injury of this Province, and which he refuses to withdraw or modify, although it is remonstrated against by the States and railway and other interests which also suffer from it. Both Houses of Congress have since determined on giving notice of the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, notwithstanding the fact that the most enlightened and influential Boards of Trades of various cities, as well as leading members of Congress, have shown that it has been of really greater benefit to the United States than to Canada, undoubted though its advantages have been to us. But Canada has to be punished, and away the Treaty must go. And now, within the last day or two, the Senate has adopted a resolution of Senator Sumner's, asking the President if there is nothing in the extradition clause of the Ashburton Treaty to show the expediency of putting an end to it. If all these things do not mean mischief, and furnish timely warnings by which if we are wise we may profit, what can be their object? Let the friends and advocates of the United States, in Canada, expound the riddle, if they can. The Canadian Government has done all in its power to prevent raids, and in return, the way is being paved for future quarrels.

ANOTHER COLD SNAP.—The weather was very cold in the early part of the week, and on Wednesday morning the thermometer was down to 25 degrees below zero.

Madoc Township Council.

The newly elected members of the Township Council met at the Town-Hall on Monday, the 16th

Before proceedings duly commenced, Mr. Reed observed that as all the gentlemen of the Council were present, he wished them to vote for his Deputy Reeve. He thought he had the right to this, as he had already served in the Council year, and because he stood second in point of seniority on the poll book at the recent election. Jephtha Bradshaw remarked that that had not to do with the choice of Deputy Reeve. The electors only voted for five Councillors; the selection of Reeve and Deputy Reeve rested entirely with the Councillors.—Mr. Reed said Mr. Bradshaw had the right to come there to oppose him; when Mr. Tassie, who was present, said that the Council had organized, and any person therefore had a right to speak in the Town-Hall.

The Township-Clerk having sworn in the members to their qualifications to sit, and called for nominations for Reeve and Deputy-reeve, it was moved by Mr. Tassie, seconded by Mr. Ward, that A. F. Ward be Reeve for 1865.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. Wood took the chair and thanked the Council for the confidence they had reposed in him.

It was then moved by Mr. Blair, seconded by Mr. Tassie, and carried, that WILLIAM WARD be Deputy Reeve for the present year.

Auditors.—J. H. Dunn, Esq., was appointed Auditor on behalf of the Council, and Charles Green, Esq., was appointed the other Auditor by the Reeve.

It was then moved by Mr. Tassie, seconded by Mr. Ward, that there be two Assessors appointed.

At the suggestion of the Reeve, the Council invited Mr. Tunney to take a seat "within the bar."

The Council then adjourned for an hour; and re-assembling, proceeded to appoint various Township officers.

Assessors.—Thomas Allen and John N. Moore applied to be appointed Assessors. No other application being made, on motion of Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Tassie, they were appointed to the office.

Collector.—On motion of Mr. Tassie, seconded by Mr. Ward, Donald Nicholson was re-appointed Collector.

Licence and Tavern Inspector.—On motion of Tassie, seconded by Mr. Blair, John Dale was appointed Licenser and Tavern Inspector.

Township Surveyor.—On motion of Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Blair, Jephtha Bradshaw was appointed Township Surveyor for the present year.

The Reeve said it would perhaps not be amiss to decide on the salaries of the above officers. The Assessors last year received \$80 for assessing, and \$10 for notifying path-masters, pound-keepers, and fence-keepers of their appointments; but as they could do this while making out their assessments, he suggested that there was no need for the payment of the extra \$10.—Mr. Reed moved that they should be paid on \$75. Not seconded.—Mr. Tassie moved, seconded by Mr. Blair, that the Assessors should be paid \$10 for assessing, and also notifying pathmasters, &c., for their appointment by the Council.

With respect to the salary of the Collector, the Reeve thought the pay he received last year, \$80, was as low as it possibly should be.—Mr. Reed moved it be \$75. This was seconded by Mr. Blair, who thought that as the salary of the Assessors had been reduced, so ought that of the Collector to be.—Carried.

After some discussion as to the duties of the Licenser and Tavern Inspector, it was moved by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Reed that J. Dale be paid \$20—same as before.—Carried.

The pay of the Township Surveyor was fixed at \$10 for each report, plan, advertising the same, and attendance on the Council.

The Reeve also called attention to the very bad way in which much of the road work in the Township was done last year, and suggested that a person should be appointed, at a small sum, to superintend all road work and report to the Council.

Mr. Reed remarked that he would not vote for an expenditure of a copper on any road, during the ensuing year, on which road work had not been properly performed.—The Council generally expressed the same opinion, and then postponed the further consideration of the subject till their next meeting.

Adjourned till the 1st of February.

The Presbyterian Soiree.

The Soiree at the Presbyterian Church in this village, on Wednesday evening, was the most numerously attended, and in a financial point of view, the most

ADVERTISEMENTS.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in Madoc Post Office up to the
1st of January, 1855.Blakely, James
Bryant, C. B.
Brown, T.
Best, Jno C.
Bush, John
Fenn, R.
Furgeson, R. T.Howe, Wm
Monroe, L
McLean, J
Macey, Charlotte
Parker, James
Smith, Jno

A. F. WOOD, Postmaster.

To all Whom It May Concern.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MADOC will meet in the TOWN-HALL on WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of FEBRUARY, 1855, for the purpose of appointing the PATH-MASTERS, CROWN-GRASSERS, and GREEN-KEEPERS of the township for 1855. All persons interested are requested to send to the Council the names of those they wish to fill the above offices.

By order of J. R. KETCHESON, T. Clerk,
Office, Town Hall, Jan. 16, 1855.

MADOC HOUSE.

WOOD & BREAKELL,
General Merchants,
Are Paying the HIGHEST PRICE in
CASH for any Quantity or
**Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, and
Peas.**

FLOUR for Sale, fresh ground and in Barrels.
August 17, 1861.

FARM TO LET.

THE FARM, containing 200 acres, Lot No. 9, in the 9th Concession of Huntington, with extensive buildings, known as "The Old Francis Place." Rent moderate. This farm is on the County gravel road from Belleville to MADOC, five miles from the latter place, where there is a cash market for produce. Applications to be made to J. D. STEPHENS, Montreal, or M. P. HAYES, Madoc, April 16, 1864.

NORTH HASTINGS.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
Executed at the

"MERCURY"

OFFICE, MADOC.
(The Only Printing Establishment in the North Riding.)
With Neatness and Dispatch.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS!!

North American Hotel, Madoc.

W. HUDGINS

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public that his new Hotel, erected on the site of the old stand is now finished and completely furnished and ready for the reception of guests. THE NORTH AMERICAN HOTEL is quite equal in all its arrangements to any first class hotel in any village in Canada. A Good Yard and Stables attached to the premises. All the Liquors are of the very best quality and brands.

ED Fine Ale and Porter always on draught.

MEDICAL HALL.

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

C. G. WILSON,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.Best Spanish Sole Leather
ON HAND, CHEAP FOR CASH.CASH Paid for HIDES and PELTS by
SYLVANUS MULLETT.

Volunteers! Turn Out!!

ALL Parties INDEBTED to A. WRIGHT, either by
Note, or Otherwise,
must Call and Settle IMMEDIATELY, and SAVE COSTS.

\$1,000,000!!

ONE OF THE CHEAPEST PLACES TO BUY GOODS
IS MACKENZIE'S. He has just received850 Pairs of Boots and Shoes,
For Men, Ladies, Misses, Boys & Children.FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY,
AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,
At Publishers' Prices, Call AtWILSON'S DRUG-STORE,
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.A. F. WOOD,
MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,
MADOC.

J. R. KETCHESON,

Township Clerk,

WILL be at the TOWN-HALL, MADOC, every SATUR-

DAY, to attend to the business of the Township.

G. C. CALDWELL,
VETERINARY SURGEON,
MADOC.MADOC GRIST MILL,
A. F. WOOD, Madoc.

A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

MR. GREAM,

(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts
of England)

Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.

JAMES FITZGERALD,
ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER,
MADOC.A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,
GENERAL MERCHANTS,
The Highest Price in Cash paid for Potash
A. B. ROSS. S. D. BOSS.Dr. THWAITES,
Madoc.C. E. RANKIN,
Provincial Land Surveyor,
Civil Engineer, &c.

OFFICE, Hudgins' Hotel, Madoc.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET,

THE HOUSE on the North side of KELLAR'S BRIDGE.
It is well adapted and situated for a

GENERAL STORE.

Being eight miles distant from the Village of Hastings, on the new Gravel Road to Tudor. Six Acres of Land attached.

For TERMS, inquire at the MERCURY OFFICE.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, January 21, 1855.

ASHES	\$4 50	lb cwt.
BARLEY	60 cents.	
OATS	45 cents.	
WHEAT	90 cents.	
RYE	50 cents.	
PEAS	60 cents.	
HIDES	\$2.	
PORK	\$12 50	lb.
BUTTER	9d	lb.
EGGS	6d.	
HAY	\$ 10	lb.

BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Spring Wheat, 4s 4d to 5s 6d. Rye, 3s 0d to 4s. Barley, 2s 6d to 3s 6d. Oats, 1s 9d to 1s 10d. Peas, 2s 10d to 3s 4d. Flour, 2s 6d to 3s 6d. Potash, 2s 10d, 2s 2d, 2s 4d, 2s 6d, 2s 8d, 2s 10d. Hay, 1s 6d to 2s 6d. Potatoes, 2s bushel, 1s 6d to 2s 4d. Turnips, 2s 6d to 3s 6d. Pork, 2s 10d lb., 2s 10d, 2s 2d, 2s 4d, 2s 6d, 2s 8d. Bacon, 2s 9d to 3s 6d. Eggs, 2s doz., 1s 3d. Hides, \$2.50. Potash, 2s bushel, 1s 4d to 2s. Wool, 1s 6d to 2s.

THREE TIMES.

First time I saw my Love, my eyes
Were pleased with her;—no surprise;
Then woke a thought that never dies
That bright June morning,
A vision, fairly clad in white,
Dawned softly, fresh on my sight,
And in her hand were roses bright—
Jesse roses—pure from speck or blight.
My Love's adorning!

Last time I saw my Love, she lay
Meekly, all silent, cold as clay;
The light of life had died away;
Oh, sad and sweet last time!
And still she wore a robe of white,
And on her pillow lightly pressed,
And in her hand that lay at rest,
Solemnly on her peaceful breast,
Were roses—buds not opened quite—
Gathered before their prime.
A tender care had laid them there,
But my dead Love was far more fair.
Next time I see my Love, I know
A glorious garment, white as snow,
On which no stains of earth can show—
Will be the form I long to see—
My angel-love, the pearl of me,
And holds a palm of victory
For earth's white roses given.

AN OLD MAN'S CHRISTMAS TREAT.

"Carr," repeated the old gentleman testily, for his landlady was a little deaf, and he was not a patient man. "a curried fowl or a rabbit; and some more coal: 'tis enough to freeze one's very marrow. Oh—say—"

"Did you call Mr. Carr?"

"You don't happen to know those people opposite, I suppose?—the lodgers I mean; first floor, or flat, or whatever you call it?"

"Do you mean the artist, sir?"

"Artist, eh? Yes, so he is. But the lady—a young lady—wife or sister?"

"His wife, sir. The name's Levison, sir. They haven't been there very long. I don't know much about them."

"Thank you, Mrs. Gill, never mind. Let the curry be hot, if you please. The wind was right in my teeth, and it cuts like a knife. The sharpest day we've have since I came home—umph!—to town, I mean."

Mr. Hugh Carr slowly took off his greatcoat, looking up at the cold grey sky, from which a few featherly flakes were dropping. He was an old gentleman, with a sallow face and big black eyebrows, fierce-looking enough until he smiled or spoke, either of which actions lighted up his face like a sudden sunbeam. For a man who had spent fifteen or sixteen years in Calcutta he was still wonderfully healthy; and as to his little eccentricities, why if any one had a right to be eccentric, surely he had. He had neither wife nor child to consider, to spend money upon, or to save it for. In fact, just at present he felt, in spite of his riches, like a desolate waif flung down in a world whose ways he had almost forgotten. There was, it is true, his brother, Mr. James Morville-Carr, and his brother's family, for him to seek out; but somehow the thought of these did not seem to comfort him much this evening. They lived in a fine house at the fashionable end of the town, and, as he said to himself, he was battered and ugly, and unfashionable. He might not suit them, nor they him. At any rate, it had been his whim to settle himself comfortably in these unpretending lodgings before he presented himself to his brother. Until now he had thought of that meeting with a strange softening about his heart, a strange return of memory to the days when his brother was only "Jim," and they two were thrown upon the world together, with little money and less credit. But all that was altered now. Jim was a rich man, and had a fine lady for a wife. Perhaps his sons would be too much of fine gentlemen to like owning a yellow old man from India as their uncle; they would have fine friends, no doubt; too grand for him. They would—

Here Mr. Carr pulled up suddenly with a gesture and an exclamation, "Here she is again, by George!" When he saw was a fair head at a window opposite, and it was bent down over some work which the owner must have been in haste to finish, for Mr. Carr could see the swift flying of the needle, and guessed that she had come to catch what remained of the fading daylight. He leaned back a little, watching her, and a thoughtful expression came into his face. He liked that young wife opposite, who was so diligent and bright-faced. He had seen her once turn from the window to welcome her husband, and the sight had stirred his gentle old heart with a wonderful mingling of thoughts and emotions which he had fancied dead for ever. She was very pretty, too;

and though the old man imagined that he saw signs of poverty in the first-floor sitting-room, yet she was always neat, always ladylike; always bright and cheery when the artist came in, however grave she might have been before.

"I'm an old fogey, to be sure," mused Mr. Carr; "and she wouldn't care to know it; but the child has done me good. She's like—now, who on earth is she like, or what insane fancy am I going to take next?"

He could not, however, get rid of the fancy. It haunted him; that vague likeness which came from time to time flashing across his mind, but never taking any definite shape. When it grew dark he saw the sudden springing up of a light in the room opposite. Then the door opened, and there were two people in the room. Did the young man for a moment put out his arms to the dainty little figure, and take it into them? Mr. Carr felt strangely drawn towards him for that. It never occurred to him that he was playing the spy. His own room was singularly favourable for the purpose, since it looked down upon these neighbours of his. No, he was not a spy. He was really and gravely interested in those young people; and though he laughed at himself, and called himself names about it, he could not help his interest.

"Poor," said Mr. Carr, "undoubtedly a struggling artist. I wonder now if he has any genius. I used to be rather a judge of pictures; that is, I fancied so. We shall see—hem!—there comes the curry."

Mr. Carr ate his dinner thoughtfully. You would have smiled to see how the workings of the old man's mind still followed in the same track; how he stopped from time to time to glance round the walls of his room, on which a straggling little picture or two hung, modestly inviting attention; to nod at these, and frown and mutter to himself. "I've got money—more than I know what to do with. Jim doesn't want it. Jim's children won't want it; that is, not all of it. I should like to do a little good, yellow old curmudgeon as I am. If the young fellow's pictures are good, I shall like to look at them; if they're bad, I can turn their faces to the wall. The money would help him all the same. He may be a genius, for anything I know, but his uphill work for a genius, marred and unknown, 'll see about it."

"Mrs. Gill?"—"Sir?"—"You think me an old crab, don't you?"

Mrs. Gill started, and then smiled. He certainly was a different looking gentleman now that he had dined, and the fire began to rear up the chimney.

"Well, I'm not really a crab, Mrs. Gill, but I feel the cold terribly; travellers do, you know, coming straight from a country where 'tis hot enough to cook a fellow. And when I'm cold it always flies to my temper. But you've made a capital curry, and I'm obliged to you; I also like my quarters, and mean to remain in them."

Mrs. Gill expressed her gratification; and the old gentleman continued, "if ever I give too much trouble you must tell me about it. I shall snarl a bit sometimes, perhaps, but you won't mind that. And now will you just have the kindness to send my man here—I want him to take a note."

The landlady vanished, and Mr. Carr sat, with his hands on his knees, smiling grimly to the fire.

"I don't see at all why I shouldn't have my portrait taken," he soliloquised. "It won't be very handsome, perhaps; but I might have it done with a snarl on the lips, and then it would serve as a reminder whenever I look at it. By George, a rare idea!"

"Is your master in?" demanded Mr. Carr.

"Mr. Morville-Carr? Ya-as, he's in. What may your business be?"

"I want to see him," said Mr. Carr.

Mr. Morville-Carr's footman raised his eyebrow slightly and glanced at the visitor—a sallow, grey-haired man, with a rough grey-coat, and a red muffler covering his throat and chin; but as the footman looked, he fancied that his visitor's firm-set mouth relaxed slightly—that he was actually laughing. It was too much.

"Don't think Mr. Morville-Carr will see you, my man. He's engaged."

"Have the goodness to show me in," said the visitor, curtly, "and to tell your master that his brother, Mr. Hugh Carr, wishes to see him."

The footman looked incredulous, but there was something in the old gentleman's manner just then startled him into precipitate obedience.

Mr. Hugh Carr heard his name announced, and saw a tall thin gentleman look up from a writing-table, hesitate a moment, and then rise.

"How do you do?" said this gentleman, putting out a cold white hand with a diamond glittering upon it. He winced a little at Hugh's hearty pressure, and then, suddenly recollecting that he had not seen his brother for some years, added, "Welcome back!"

"Thank you, Jim. I've knocked about the long enough, but I'm home for good now, I hope." "Ah, yes, of course," said Mr. Morville-Carr, "mean that's right. You'll dine with us?"

Hugh did not answer for a moment. Old was in the world's ways, he was struggling against certain bitter sensations of pain at his brother's unmoved greeting. The supercilious footman had been simply amusing, but this was another like. He had been fifteen years away; and now this who used to be so warm-hearted, just spoke to as if they had met yesterday, and asked him dinner. He made no allowance for his acquired sullenness, nor for the influence which his fashionable dress had exercised upon him for so many years. He had no allowance at all, and no excuse; he simply stuck into himself, and felt bitterly that he and I were little more than strangers; that he was wanted; that he had not a friend in the world would care whether he lived or died, was happy miserable.

(To be continued.)

VARIETIES.

Which is the smallest bridge in the world?—bridge of your nose.

When is better like Irish children?—When made into little pats.

Water from the river Jordan is sold in Paris, for purposes of baptism of children, by sprinkling.

There are two ways of getting rich, one by adding to our possessions, the other by diminishing our sins; the latter is much the easier and readier.

Nothing casts a denser cloud over the mind than discontent, rendering it more occupied about the things that disquiet it than the means of removing it.

If you would relish your food, labour for it; if you would enjoy your raiment, pay for it before you eat it; if you would sleep soundly, take a clear course to bed with you.

A missionary in London, recently riding on a omnibus, told the driver that he—

Jeju was much interested. "Are they a civilised-like people?"

At the Christmas examination on school from London, a young tyro in declamation, was told by the teacher that he must gesture according to the sense, in commencing a piece with comet like its fiery tail," lifted the tail of his a horizontal position, causing roars of laughter.

No man can tell another's feelings. A star Irish labourer was one day begging from a gentleman who requested a medical man present to examine the said labourer. The labourer had enforced a plea with—"Ye hanner, I can't work."—"I can nothing the matter with you to prevent your working, my man," said the doctor. "Ah, that's that," "you," replied Pat; "but then your hanner can't now lazy I feel."

OH, HOW ARTFUL!—Wife: Whenever I was nice snug dry, all to myself, I tell George my nose is coming; and then I see nothing of him till on the morning.—Punch.

CURE FOR LAZINESS.—The Dutch have a singular contrivance to cure laziness. If a pauper who is refused to work, they put him into a cistern, and in a sluice of water. It comes in just so fast, that briskly applying a pump, with which the cistern is furnished, he keeps himself from drowning.

CAUTION TO "FAST MEN."—A young gent is to have lately lost an excellent party, a girl with twenty thousand pounds, through an inexhaustible act of "fastness." It appears that one Sabbath, May, he went to church with his intended, who, on occasion to search for the collect, asked him "What Sunday it was?" The unhappy "fast man," giving way to what was uppermost in his mind, replied "That it was the last Sunday before the Derby," a worldly-minded answer so disgusted his inamorous that a coldness ensued, and the match was ultimately broken off.

HOW A CREDITOR TOOK OUT A DEBT.—A peasant having sold the village Esculapius a sack of wheat called upon his debtor for the pay. "Haven't any money," replied the man of physic. "Then give me back my wheat."—"Impossible," said the peasant, "I have eaten up."—"Then give me a chair, or a table something."—"Got none, I'm a regular bankrupt." "Then put some leeches on me, anyhow!" the doctor did as he was requested, and the peasant parted satisfied!

THE MADOC MERCURY AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1865.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

possibility, and even probability, of the war speedily closed by negotiations for peace, is discussed than ever. The leading rebels have, till within a very few days, scouted the idea that there was any foundation for the current intelligence. They have, however, now some change their opinion. It appears that Mr. Sherman's visit to Richmond was not without important results, after all. It is understood in Richmond that he had a private and confidential interview with President Davis, who sent Blair an auto-da-fé expressing his willingness to send representatives authorised to negotiate peace. Sherman Whig says it is known that Davis will not oblige of form (by which is meant, it is said, a technical recognition of his government) but in the way of sending or receiving communiques. Mr. Blair, on his return to Washington, repeated interviews with President Lincoln, who is to be giving his mind to the endeavour on both sides to bring about a settlement; and after a sojourn in the Federal capital, he returned to London whence he is expected back again in a few days. It is impossible to predict what the result will be, or to guess whether these statements will stand in truth. Hitherto Davis' obstinacy has represented as the great obstacle to termination of the war than the recognition of the Confederate States, and as he has been accused by some of the members of endeavouring to intimidate the honourable and peaceful settlement of the Congress, recently as defiant as ever, it is asserted in the Northern papers unanimously through their Foreign Relations, in favour of sending an "appeal to sue for a peace." It seems as if some have inclined some to give up the hopeless, while others, rather than seek peace, would make the best terms they themselves with the United States. But the not unanimous, others arguing that the port of Wilmington, by throwing the entire reliance on their own resources, will only prove a gain. The troops previously detaching the seaports can be concentrated for offensive purposes elsewhere. If the South is not yet for war, there appears to be a sufficiently resolute majority still left to render an unconditional surrender on their part extremely imminent till they are disposed of, we think there is no prospect of peace.

After the surrender of Fort Fisher, the Confederates took up Fort Caswell and the other minor fortifications at the entrance of Cape Fear river. The capture of Wilmington itself was announced last week, but the rumour was premature. The entire force under Gen. Terry had advanced towards the town, reinforced by a heavy veteran troops from Sherman, believed to be under command of Gen. Howard. It was thought to meet with little or no opposition. Light troops were moving cautiously towards Wilmington for torpedoes. No doubt is felt that it will soon be in possession of the Federals. Sherman's army, it is announced, is again on the march, and it is promised that news will soon be of the stars and stripes floating over more Confederate cities. Important military news south was looked for hourly at Washington

at the beginning of this week. It is expected that Sherman can walk the course through South Carolina. The fall of Charleston is another of the things which is "hourly expected." A large number of Confederate reinforcements are reported to have arrived in that city. Some of the monitors blockading the harbour of that rebellious city have lately been sunk by torpedoes. Some conjectures are hazarded that nothing can "resist the sweep of Sherman's magnificent army," and that he can now with ease march northwards to Richmond, where he will join Grant; defeat Lee, and at one blow finish the last remnant of the rebellion.

The Confederates say that the losses in Hood's army were much less than reported, and that 8,000 will cover all casualties during the campaign, and that Hood has plenty of artillery. It is rumoured in Richmond that Gen. Hood has been superseded by Gen. Dick Taylor.—The Confederates are likely to give trouble enough, yet, wherever they are beyond the reach of gunboats.

framed with a due attention to economy combined with efficiency.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN AND GENTLEMEN:

At the close of the last session of Parliament I informed you that it was my intention, in conjunction with my ministers, to propose a bill with which to you a measure for the solution of the constitutional problem, the discussion of which has for some years agitated this Province.

A careful consideration of the general position of British North America induced the conviction that the circumstances of the times afforded the opportunity not merely for the settlement of a question of Provincial politics, but also for the simultaneous creation of a new Nationality.

Preliminary negotiations were opened by me with the Lieutenant Governors of the other Provinces of British North America, and the result was that a meeting was held at Quebec in the month of October, 1864, at which delegates from those Colonies, representing all shades of political party in their several communities, nominated by the Lieutenant Governors of their respective Provinces, who assembled here, with the sanction of the Crown, did at my invitation, to confer with the members of the Canadian Ministry on the possibility of effecting a Union of all the Provinces of British North America.

This Conference, after lengthened deliberations, arrived at the conclusion that a Federal Union of these Provinces was practicable, and that it was in its nature a plan of Constitution for the proposed Union, embodied in a series of resolutions which, with other papers relating to the subject, I have directed to be laid before you.

The general design of a Union, and the particular plan by which it is proposed to carry that intention into effect, have both received the cordial approbation of the Imperial Government. An Imperial Act of Parliament will be necessary in order to give effect to the contemplated Union of the Colonies, and that bill, on the adoption of the proposed Constitution, that His Majesty's Ministers will be prepared to introduce a bill for that purpose into the Imperial Parliament, so soon as they shall have been notified that the proposal has received the sanction of the Legislatures representing the several Provinces affected by it.

In confounding to your attention this subject, the importance of which to yourselves and to your descendants it is impossible to exaggerate, I would claim for it your calm, earnest and impartial consideration. The public men of British North America, who have been called to decide upon the fate of the country which they inhabit shall be consolidated into a State, comprising within its area all the elements of national greatness, providing for the security of its component parts and contributing to the strength and solidity of the Empire; or whether the several Provinces of which it is constituted shall remain in their present fragmentary and isolated condition, comparatively powerless for mutual aid, and incapable of undertaking the heavy tasks of Imperial responsibility. In the discussions which are fast to death on such momentous questions, let us, I beseech you, remember that your minds may be guided to consider the welfare of the Empire, and to your own reputation as patriots and statesmen.

His Excellency having left the building, the business of the Council commenced. The Hon. Messrs. Gingras, Dumonceau, Chaffers, McPherson, Duchesneau, and Bell were introduced and took their seats.

On motion of Sir E. F. Tache, the consideration of the Speech was postponed until Monday next.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

On the members returning, the Speaker announced the seats that had become vacant since the last session and the members who had been returned.

The Hon. Messrs. Brown, Macdougall and Howland, and Messrs. Haultain, Tremblay, Morrison and Gaucher were introduced and took their seats.

After transacting some routine business, the House adjourned till Monday.

From Europe.

The City of Baltimore arrived at New York on the 20th inst.—Mr. Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in a speech at Oxford, asserted that the Canadian Government would maintain inviolate the neutrality of British territory, and if the existing laws prove insufficient, they will not long remain so. The British revenue for 1864 is only £200,000 below the previous year, notwithstanding the reduction of several millions of taxation.

The British war steamer *Ramorhais* was wrecked in the China Sea, and 99 lives lost.

The Canada arrived at Halifax on the 2nd.—The Army and Navy Gazette says that the Canadian army will in all probability lapse, but not harangued.

The display of attachment to Great Britain and of patriotic zeal which the recent events called forth will add to the many sources of irritation which the contest in America has opened, and will transfer to the Canadians a full share of the overflowing animosity with which Great Britain is regarded by the mass of the Northern people, but the Canadians have shown fresh signs of Imperial sympathy.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

The expenditure rendered necessary by calling out the volunteers for active service, of which was unforeseen when the resolution of the members were agreed to, will necessitate a supplementary vote for the service. I have desired that an estimate for this purpose shall be laid before you.

I am happy to be in a position to inform you that the financial legislation of the session has been attended with beneficial results. The revenue has largely increased, and there has been a contemporaneous extension of the trade of the Province.

I have directed the Auditor for the next financial year to be laid before you. You will find that they have been

A Difference of Opinion

The Governor-General commanded the Throne by congratulating Parliament on the general prosperity and contentment of this Province." Mr. Isaac Buchanan sat as member for the city of Hamilton in his letter announcing his reasons for doing so.

"So helpless, degraded, and anxious trial position and prospects of the Province by the unpatriotic theories of the British Statesmen of the present day. Loyalty of the colonists is being slow undermined!"

Which of these two authorities is right?

Mr. Buchanan advocates the alternative of annexation, which is otherwise inevitable. But he thinks Confederation useless, unless it has an independent Life industry; "and it can only have this if a local or emblematic money, which is to remain within the Federation as far as possible."—Financial authorities will agree with him, but we believe that we must confine our attention upon the amount of paper-money made a legal tender—say to the extent of 130,000 men for the defence of the Province might be advantageously tried. There is notoriously too small an amount in circulation to give free development to the country.

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

AMERICAN WAR NEWS.—The latest intelligence indicates little likelihood of the termination of the war being hastened by Mr. Blair's so-called peace missions. The U. S. government holds "precisely the same position it has always held, and believes it can conquer a peace within a reasonable time;" and popular sentiment has over-rated the desire of the Confederate Government for peace. When their armies are destroyed, they will make peace."

The Confederate Congress, instead of showing any disposition to "cave in," has passed a resolution appointing a joint committee to prepare an address to the people of the Confederate States, assuring them of the unalterable determination of Congress to continue, with all its energy, the struggle for independence.

The Richmond papers, with the exception of the Examiner, are unanimous in scouting the idea of the reconstruction of the Union being possible, or that the Confederates can gain any enduring peace, and personal security in the future, without independence.

A Confederate fleet of five vessels came down the James River, in the early part of the week, to attack the Federal depots and works at City Point. One of the vessels was blown up and entirely destroyed, and two more were so badly injured by shot and shell that they were compelled to seek safety, with the others, by speedy flight back to Richmond.

The Richmond Dispatch contains a report that the C. S. General, Price, had captured Fort Smith, Arkansas, with its garrison of 2,000 men, but it is not officially confirmed.

THE MADOC MERCURY
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28.

The announcement of Mr. Wood's re-election as Warden, being by no means quite unexpected, was received here very quietly. The fact that he has for the third time been placed in that position by those most competent, from experience, to judge of his abilities, is the best proof of his fitness for the office.

THE PUBLIC DEFENCE.

We are glad to find that the Toronto Leader is exerting its great influence to awaken the people of Canada to the danger in which the Province will be placed by remaining unprepared for the possibility of war with the United States, as it evidently entertains similar views on the subject to those we expressed last week. On Saturday last that paper announced that thirty gunboats, carrying 3,500 men, are ordered to be sent out from England for the defence of the Lakes, and it insisted

that it is the duty of the Canadian Government to do its share towards providing for the public security, by at once calling out one hundred thousand men for six months' drill. On Tuesday it showed that the arming, equipment, and drilling of this number of men would be as follows:—

100 Lieutenant Colonels at	80
200 Majors	450
1,000 Captains	375
3,000 Subalterns	225
100 Quartermasters	3
100 Paymasters	3
100 Surgeons	6
100 Assistant do	375
100 Adjutants	375
100 Regt. Sergt. Majors	1
4,000 Sergeants	75
4,000 Corporals	40
87,000 Privates	83
Total per day	\$47,300
Making for 180 days	\$8,524,800
To this sum must be added the cost of arming and equipment, which may be put down at \$40 per man.	
99,900	3,300,000
35,000 men	\$12,824,800

Say, in round numbers, thirteen millions of dollars. This seems an enormous sum in the aggregate, but after all, it is less than five dollars per head of the population,—a much smaller sum than we should probably be individually willing to pay for insurance against the losses to which we should all be liable in case of an invasion. We have only to remember the accounts of the wholesale destruction of private Southern property, at the frequent Federal raids, to realize a faint idea of what we may expect, should the Americans carry out their continual threats of war against Great Britain, which means attempting to wrest her North American Provinces from her possession by force; and then to decide whether even the above large expenditure is not the least of two evils.

There are some few amongst us who believe our annexation to the American republic to be our manifest and inevitable destiny, and some few more, perhaps who would accept that fate in preference to fighting against it. But we have no doubt whatever that the majority see clearly enough that we should lose more than we should gain by that course. We should then have to bear our full share of the immense debt already incurred by the United States and would be liable to be drafted off to fight their battles—and if we suffer ourselves to be annexed unresistingly, their arrogance would soon bring them into conflict with other nations. We cannot, however, rely upon their letting us alone, if we neglect to take the necessary steps for self-protection; and that we are in danger of drifting into war the following extracts from American papers will sufficiently prove, whatever sympathisers with the North may say to the contrary:—

The Detroit Free Press, commenting upon the numerous acts of hostility recently shown towards Great Britain and Canada by the Federal States, says:—

"If the crazed action of this administration is not stopped, and immediately, in these directions, a foreign war is as sure as that we are not yet closed our domestic one."

The Richmond Enquirer of Thursday last contains a significant article, which says that after a long and interest would incline them to submit to the United States rather than to England, France, or Maximilian. Joining their military forces they could then sweep this continent and thus hide their shame, while America will become the colossal power of the world.

OBAINED HIS CERTIFICATE.—Among the gentlemen attending the Military School of Canada at Toronto, who passed very creditably last examination, on Tuesday, we observe that of Captain James Richardson, of this village, obtained a second class certificate. We believe his intention to try for a "first class," and doubt that he possesses the requisite qualifications to succeed in gaining it.

TEA-MEETING IN MARMORA.—On Tuesday a very pleasant tea-meeting was held in the Hall, Marmora, under the auspices of the Friends of Peace, and others, in aid of the funds of the Church of England in connexion with the Church of England tea was got up in excellent style. The chair was occupied by B. Beddoe, Esq., and addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Baker, of Stirling, and Smith, of Marmora. The attendance was quite large, including a number of visitors from the town and township of Marmora. About \$30, clear pence, was realized by the entertainment.

THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.

How vast unto the living seem the dead!
How sacred, solemn; how heroic grown!
How vast and vague, as they obscurely tread
The shadowy confines of the dim unknown!—
For they have met the monster that we dread,
Have learned the secret of the awful shroud.
Even in gloomiest shadows on the wall
The spirit of the departed child amaze,
So on us thoughts of the departed fall,
And with phantasms fill our gloomy gate.
Awe and deep wonder lend the living lines,
And hope and ecstasy the borrowed beams;
While fitful fancy the full form divides,
And all is what imagination dreams.

AN OLD MAN'S CHRISTMAS TREAT.

(Continued.)

"No, not to-day," he said, at last. "I'm not a fashionable man, you see, Jim; and your wife—never mind about that however. The boys—how are they? And my niece and god-child?"

"My sons are a credit to me," replied James Carr, pressing his white hands together. "Reginald is on the eve of a very eligible alliance. He is about to marry a lady of rank."

"Hem! He's fortunate," said Mr. Hugh. "And my pretty little god-daughter, how is she?"

A change came over the elder brother's face; it grew even longer than usual; an expression of solemn gravity drew his lips together as he replied. "You will oblige me by asking no questions concerning her. Indeed, the name is never mentioned amongst us."

"Good heavens, Jim! Not dead?" said Hugh.

"Dead to us. Disengaged!" said the father, lowering his voice, as though he thought the walls might hear and repeat it. "She—it is a painful subject—she married a low fellow; in fact her own drawing master. We did our best, but she found means to elude our vigilance."

A vision rose before Hugh's eyes of a tiny atom in a white frock and pink ribbons; of dainty little feet that perched upon his knee; of laughing blue eyes and fair curls, and a soft little cheek pressed to his own.

"Poor child!" he said. "Poor dear little girl! What has become of her?"

The elder brother made a gesture of annoyance, and his voice grew sharper, as he replied, "I repeat that she is dead to us. She chose her own lot, and must abide by it."

"You don't mean that you have lost sight of her altogether?" said Hugh.

James Carr nodded complacently.

"But the name?" said his brother. "At least you know that?"

"Let me beg of you to drop the subject, Hugh. It is just on the stroke of two. You will stay to luncheon, and make acquaintance with my sons?"

"Thank you; another time," said Hugh; "I want to get back now. Good-bye."

He took the white hand in his once more, and then the supercilious footman showed him out. The man's manner now was scrupulously polite, but Hugh did not notice the change. He was full of thought. That little white frock had come out into the street with him. It danced before his eyes as he looked at the pavement; it shut out the shop-windows and their contents from him, when he raised his head to look into them. Where was she now, that poor little girl, who had been reared in luxury, and abandoned with pitiless indifference to what might be starvation; or that was the way in which he viewed the case; his pet and god-child, as well as his niece. What was he to do? How should he begin to search for her?

The queerest old gentleman you ever saw, Milly. But it doesn't matter about oddity, does it, when one gets such orders as this?"

"Suppose he never pays, though?"

"Walter Levison looked at his wife and laughed, as he replied, "Cautious little woman, you are, eh? He's a nabob, I'm sure; rich enough to buy up—Heigh-ho! I wish I could see my way to moderate competence. Never mind, I got a new pupill to-day, and a new dress for you shall come out of the two pictures."

"When they're done," suggested his wife, nodding. "Exactly," said her husband. "It seems rather odd that a rich old fellow should choose this part to live in. The respectable, certainly, but not grand. There! he's just gone in. Now we shall see him come to the window; he always does that the first thing. Want to see him, little woman?"

Milly shook her head. She was busy; but she asked, "What's his name, Walter?"

"Carr," he replied. "I say, Milly, perhaps he's a relation."

"I dare say," said Milly, laughing. "Couldn't you persuade him that he is?"

"I wish I could, and get him to adopt you," said her husband. "Tis all very well to joke about it. I could bear pinching for myself; but when I think about you, and—and everything—tis so use talking; but a fellow can't help getting awfully down-hearted."

"Now I shall have to scold in downright earnest," said Milly. "Is anything hard, Walter,—can anything be hard while we have each other?"

"My brave little wife—no," he replied.

But Walter's voice was not quite firm for all that; and Milly, busier as she was, laid aside her work, went up to him, and put her arms round his neck.

I don't know whether Mr. Carr saw this. Perhaps he did, for though the Venetian blind was down over the artist's window, it was in too shattered a condition to shut out much. Whether he saw it or not, he let fall the curtain which he had raised to look out, and went up hastily to his seat by the fire. And again there came up before him the white frock and pink ribbons; childlike blue eyes looked up into his own; childlike fingers played with his hair—not iron-grey then, not scanty—and childlike lips touched his own with loving kisses.

"Poor child!" said Mr. Carr again. "Poor dear little girl! I wonder if he could make a picture of her from my description. He has only got to fancy his wife—"

Here the old man rose up from his chair in sudden agitation. Why did the painter's wife occur to him so strangely in conjunction with that other little figure? Could it be possible, or was he only a silly old man building castles of cobwebs? He walked about a little, thinking, with a changing face; he lifted the curtain once more, but let it fall again quickly. He was troubled and excited, and could not rest.

"I'll see," he said. "I must find out from his talk. 'Tis too good to be true, though, and I'm a dreaming simpleton. Never mind—no one will know but myself."

* * * * *

Mr. Carr stood with the young painter, seemingly looking at the windows of an old book shop, where they met occasionally, and the old man was looking very much in earnest, but his earnestness had nothing to do with the old books.

"Then you think you could manage it for me, eh?"

"Well," replied the painter, "I would do my best.

As to its being a likeness, you know—"

"Yes, yes, I know. Of course you can't promise that," said Mr. Carr. "But now, look here. Your wife—I have seen but little of her yet, but I hope to know her better. She is fair, I think—blonde, as people call it."

The artist made a gesture of puzzled assent.

"With blue eyes," continued Mr. Carr. "Well, can't you make her a child again? You know what I mean. Imagine what she must have been as a child, and paint that. 'Tis an old man's whim, you know. Mrs. Levison would not object to sit to you."

Walter laughed quietly at the idea of his wife's objections to any request of his. "Yes," said he, "Milly would sit to me." There was, or Walter fancied it, a sudden contraction of the old man's forehead as he spoke, and he added, hastily, "Don't think me lukewarm about it, Mr. Carr. I'll do my best."

"Yes; thanks," said Mr. Carr. "What did you say your wife's name is? Milly—short for Amelia, perhaps?"—"No, Millicent," replied Walter.

"Ah, 'tis a name—that is, some one very dear to me bore that name; but it is many years since I lost her."

Walter's ready sympathy woke up at once. This, then, was the secret of the old man's loneliness. He, grey-haired and sallow, and dejected, had still some quiet corner in his heart wherein was locked away that story the passionate sadness of which utters out so loudly to the young, and bids them in their joy be tender to sufferings whose shadow has not yet touched themselves. This man had loved some dead Milly, as fair perhaps, thought Walter, as his own. Mr. Carr might even have been married; it was a question the painter could not ask. He only lowered his voice a little, and spoke with an instinctive perception that the old man would like him to go on.

"My wife was always called Millicent at home, but I rarely call her so. Before we were married her name was the same as yours, Mr. Carr."

"Yes, it is a common name."

Mr. Carr said this in a breathless sort of way, which would have struck his companion at another time; but Walter's thoughts were preoccupied. The subject touched that sore place in his heart, which hurt him from time to time with the thought of the poverty to which he had brought his wife. Mr. Carr's interest in him had been so real, and un-

cealed that Walter felt inclined to be considerate and he blurted out his next sentence with a mixture of frankness and pride.

"Common enough alone, perhaps; but my family add to it. They are the Morell-Carrs; better, isn't it?" said the young man, with a smile. "The fact is, I—we did what I'm afraid would think wrong, Mr. Carr. We just fell and got married, and the Morell-Carrs have I know that Milly grieves about it sometimes, then I feel that I was selfish; but still, you love each other, and—"

Walter stopped suddenly. Mr. Carr had away from his arm, and scarcely seemed to be tending.

"Yes," said the old gentleman, hurriedly don't blame you. But you'll excuse me not getting late. Good night."

Mr. Carr walked off quickly, leaving the half angry, half amused at the way in which his confidence had been received.

"What a fool I was to prate about my affairs! I liquised the painter; as if he would care about them! I dare say his Milly was a sister to all, and he never had a wife. Well, now for the whim of his."

(To be concluded next week.)

VARIETIES.

Why is the Chinese language like an English—Because it is composed of such queer characters?

Why is a solar eclipse like a parent whipping boy?—Because 'tis a hiding of the sun.

Mrs. Partington of opinion that Mount Vesuvius should take sarsaparilla to cure itself of eruptions.

A lady in Germany lately gave birth to four darters at once. Her husband died.

A Boston powder company has built a church for its workmen, and blows them up if they don't attend.

He is happy whose circumstances suit his temper but he is more so whose can suit his temper circumstances.

How few are our real wants, and how easily satisfy them; our imaginary ones are boundless.

An Armstrong 12-pounder breech-loader was fired at Shrewsbury 100 times in 18 minutes—seconds—the most rapid artillery fire in recorded history. It is nearly eight rounds a minute, and it was calculated on the ground that four shots were often in the same time.

It is estimated that the Northern States of the American Republic still contain upwards of six hundred and thirty-five thousand young men, who are fit and fit to be made soldiers.

An old actor, Louis Kramer, has just died at evens in a singular way. He was playing King Lear and in his excitement swallowed a portion of his official beard, which stuck in his windpipe and obstructed him.

"Ah, Mr Simpkins, we have not chairs enough for our company," said a gay wife to her frugal husband. "Plenty of chairs, my dear, but a little too much company," replied he.

An Irish piper, who now and then indulges in a glass too much, was accosted by a gentlewoman—"Pat, what makes your face so red?" "For your honour," said Pat, "I always blush when I speak to a gentleman."

A Dutchman residing at Colesberg, in the Orange Free State, says he can tame ostriches and keep them like poultry, and has actually bred seventeen. I want about ten acres of grazing land apiece, but a bird yields twenty-four feathers every six months, with the smaller feathers, about £12 10s. £25 a year.

A young man very much smitten—right into the core of his heart—by a beautiful young lady he about to marry, resolved to give her a remarkable test of his disinterestedness and affection. The young lady had a bad tooth, which was to be taken out certain morning. The youth had heard as that a sound tooth taken out of the head of any person might be re-inserted at once in another with a fair chance of planting itself and becoming a fixture. He went to the dentist in the morning, a lady was announced immediately after his name. He explained his wish to the dentist. The tooth was pulled down and transplanted, and he begged to be dead to the lady, when, behold, it was a strong an elderly and not a pretty matron, though a grotesque to the generous and disinterested youth.